

SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Meeting of Thursday, March 23, 1995
Room BC-110, 10:30

Present: E. Abouheif, P. Bird, T. Bui (Chair), D. Feldman, D. Gold, A.B. Ibrahim, E. Loo (recording secretary), D. Markiewicz, J. Tomberlin, E. Besso

Regrets: B. Anderson, P. Lightbown, R. Storms, C. Suen

Absent: P. Dalton, K. Lipke, J.F. Plamondon

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

SRC-03-23-95-A	Agenda for the SRC Meeting of March 23, 1995
SRC-02-16-95-M	Minutes of the SRC Meeting of February 16, 1995
SRC-03-23-95-D1	Internal Grants CASA
SRC-03-23-95-D2	Minutes of CREPUQ's Comité de la recherche Meeting of January 19, 1995, re: Meeting with Fonds FCAR (95-CR-114-1)
SRC-03-23-95-D3	Extract from the Minutes of CREPUQ's Comité exécutif Meeting of January 26, 1995, re: Projet - Les universités et les centres de liaison et de transfert technologique - Positionnement des universités (95-CR-114-2)
SRC-03-23-95-D4	Université Laval: Politique relative à la récupération des coûts directs et indirects de la recherche (95-CR-114-9)
SRC-03-23-95-D5	Memo dated February 20, 1995 from Dr. T. Bui to Dr. C. Bertrand, Interim Rector & Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Senate, re: Membership of Fonds FCAR Committees for 1994-95
SRC-03-23-95-D6	Concordia's response to NSERC Strategic Grants Programme
SRC-03-23-95-D7	Communiqués from SSHRC, NSERC, AUCC and Social Science Federation of Canada, re: Impact of Federal Budget

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m.

1. Approval of Agenda (SRC-03-23-95-A)

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

2. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of February 16, 1995.

The Minutes for the February 16, meeting were approved.

3. Business arising from Minutes

Chair proposed that item 4, re: *Politique des établissements universitaires du Québec relative aux frais indirects de la recherche subventionnée par des organismes non accrédités* should be tabled under item number 9.

4. Report of the Chair

Chair welcomed Dr. Jerry Tomberlin who is representing the Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Administration.

Chair reported the following:

- The Faculty of Commerce and Administration passed a motion to support the CASA Funds. The Faculty of Fine Arts passed unanimously a similar motion, it supports the second part of the Faculty of Commerce and Administration's motion which is directly related to the CASA funding. The Faculty of Arts & Science has also unanimously passed a motion with regard to the same Funds.
- SRC-03-23-95-D2 - Chair noted that an FCAR delegation visited the Comité de la recherche of CREPUQ on January 26, unfortunately he was not able to attend the meeting and Dr. Besso has attended on his behalf. The purpose of the visit was to discuss FCAR's propositions related to items such as evaluation of existing programmes, proposed new components of the programme for the establishment of *nouveaux chercheurs*, project *actions concertées sur la pédagogie universitaire* and new system of evaluation that is being proposed by FCAR. It is conceivable that FCAR will regroup the eight evaluation committees which are now based on disciplines and group them to four multi-disciplinary committees: pure sciences, applied sciences, social sciences, humanities. FCAR is consulting with universities regarding the programme *nouveaux chercheurs* and they propose two new components, the first is formation of teams of new researchers and the second is financial support for *chercheurs boursiers*. The proposed budget for these two new components is about \$1.5 M and it would come from the centre grants programme. Universities are not happy with this proposal.

FCAR is in the process of setting-up a conseil consultatif with a mandate to advise the president of FCAR, and to develop FCAR next triennial plan.

4. Report of the Chair

- SRC-03-23-95-D3 - At the Comité de la recherche, there have been some discussions regarding the *centres de liaison et de transfert technologique*. Last year there was a two-day meeting of the Comité de la recherche in which people from the ministry and directors of some large CLTs were invited to attend. Subsequently the Comité de la recherche prepared a report, specifying Quebec universities' position in regard to CLTs. CLTs are created with the aim to form linkages between universities and industries through these centres but when these centres are created, they become competitors and this has been an issue of concern for universities.
- SRC-03-23-95-D4 - This is related to the 15% indirect cost to be charged on all grants which are not accredited by SIRU. This document is Laval's position on this issue. At Concordia, the document from CREPUQ is now at the Office of the Rector. Drs. Besso and Bui have made suggestions about steps to be taken. The document will be discussed at the Office of the Rector in the future.

5. Report of the Director, Office of Research Services

E.M. Besso reported the following:

- Interviews have started for the Industrial Liaison position. Of the four initial candidates they intended to interview, two have declined to continue the process, they have already met with one and will meet with the second one in the coming weeks.
- On March 6, Dr. Besso has submitted the Policy of Contract Research to the Interim Vice-Rector, Academic and Associate Vice-Rector, Academic (Research). It is to Dr. Besso's understanding that the document will be looked at, at the Office of the Rector meeting with the expectation that a communication will be made that in principle the document is approved particularly for aspects which are defined in it and are not covered by any other University policy.
- NSERC has advised ORS that the results for the NSERC competition will be late, they are expected at the beginning of April. SSHRC results should be announced next week. ORS has received the results for the SSHRC Strategic Grants, there were four applications from Concordia: one has been successful and the other three have received 4 A's and they are from Arts & Science.
- The description about new changes in the Faculty Research Development Programme (FRDP) has been announced in the Concordia's Thursday Report and a bulletin announcing the changes has been sent to all faculty members.
- The Seagram Competition for this coming year is running late, there is still one member missing, they are waiting for the nomination from the Faculty of Commerce and Administration. The meetings must occur in the month of May.
- Research Brochure: the text has been finalised and is being translated, they are in the process of shooting the photographs. ORS is preparing the identification of a mailing list.

5. Report of the Director, Office of Research Services

- The Canadian Council on Animal Care will be doing a site visit at Concordia University on April 5, 1995.

6. Question Period

P. Bird queried about the cuts in General Research Funds from NSERC as mentioned in the minutes from CREPUQ Comité de la recherche meeting.

Chair explained that this information is outdated, this was the Committee's reaction to the first release from NSERC concerning the phasing-out of all non-core programmes including the GRF's. However, the second release sent on March 6 after the announcement of the Federal Budget shows much deeper cuts. At its meeting on March 2, NSERC's Executive Committee confirmed that Council will give priority only to the core programmes.

J. Tomberlin questioned about the Grants for International Travel from SSHRC.

P. Bird explained that in the Faculty of Arts & Science, they separate a portion of the SSHRC General Research Grant, and put it into a special account for International Travel. Anybody giving a paper at an international conference is eligible for a supplement from these funds.

7.1 Internal Grants CASA (SRC-03-23-95-D1)

Chair remarked that last September, Dr. Raphael from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics wrote to Dr. Bertrand, Interim Rector with respect to the CASA internal grants. The executive assistant to the Rector sent the letter to Dr. Parker, interim Vice-Rector, Academic, who then passed it to the Chair for discussion at the SRC.

Chair asked Committee members based on Dr. Raphael's letter, whether this committee should develop a policy or leave it to the Faculties?

P. Bird remarked that in his Faculty, they pay particular attention to people performing quality research and he basically agrees with Dr. Raphael.

It was remarked that each Faculty has its own policy concerning the distribution of the CASA internal grants, it was therefore proposed that the matter be forwarded to the appropriate Faculty for consideration.

7.2 Establishment of an Office of the Vice-Rector, Academic Committee to Develop Policy on Copyright and Intellectual Property

Chair remarked that he has been asked by Dr. Parker, Interim Vice-Rector, Academic to chair a committee operating under the auspices of the Office of the Vice-Rector, Academic to develop draft policies pertaining to Copyright and Intellectual Property.

Chair said that he has already mentioned to Dr. Parker that the issue of copyright and intellectual property is a very broad issue and research is just a small component. It is to the Chair's understanding that the School of Graduate Studies is in the process of creating a task force to look at the issue of graduate students. At Senate, the Chair mentioned about the existence of a document prepared by the Canadian Graduate Council. Recently, our office has obtained permission to reproduce the Canadian Graduate Council's document entitled: "Research and Ownership: Intellectual Property Issues in Canadian Graduate Schools". A copy was sent to the School of Graduate Studies' Committee in charge of the project for their perusal.

Chair noted that perhaps it is not the time yet for him to set-up a committee because he does not know how extensive the issue would be and what sectors of the University should be involved. In the mean time the Chair will look at the laws of copyright in Canada, policy on intellectual property, collective agreements at Concordia to determine how these documents are related to the overall document that Concordia would want to create.

8. For information

9. Varia

The *Politique des établissements universitaires du Québec relative aux frais indirects de la recherche subventionnée par des organismes non accrédités* should be tabled for the next SRC meeting.

10. Adjournment

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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